PAIN. A picture, sir.—When comes your book forth[8]?

drop from a poet as gums from odoriferous trees, and that his Same kindles itself without the violence necessary to elicit sparkles from the flint. What follows next ? that it *like a current flies each bound it chafes.* This may mean that jt expands itself notwithstanding al obstructions : but the images in the comparison are so ill sorted and the effect so obscurely expressed, that I cannot but think something omitted that connected the last sentence with the former. It is well known that the players often shorten speeches to quicken the representation : and it may be suspected, that they sometimes performed their amputations with more haste than judgment. JOHNSON.

Perhaps the sense is, that having *touched on one subject, itjlies off in quest of another.* The old copy seems to read—

" Each bound it *chases."*

The letters/* and/are not always to be distinguished from each other, especially when the types have been much worn, as in the first folio. If *chases* be the true reading, it is best explained by the *[c] — se sequiturque fugitque—" of the Roman poet Somewhat similar occurs in The Tempest;

" Do *chase* the ebbing Neptune, and doj
% him " When he pursues."
STEEVENS.

The obscurity of this passage arises merely from the mistake of the editors, who have joined in one, what was intended by Shakspeare as two distinct sentences.—It should be pointed thus, and then the sense will be evident:

« ,---------our gentle flame
" Provokes itself, and like the
current flies; ** Each bound it
chafes."

Our gentle flame animates itself; it flies like a current; and every obstacle serves but to increase its force. M. MASON. In Julius Caesar we have—

" The troubled Tiber *chafing* with her shores.
—-" Again in The Legend of Pierce Gaveston, by Michael Drayton, 1594:,

" Like as the ocean, *chafing* with his *bounds,*
" With racing bill-owes Jfoes against the rocks,
" And to the shore sends forth his hideous
sounds,,," &c.

M ALONE,

This jumble of incongruous images, seems to have been designed, and put into the mouth of the Poetaster, that the reader might appreciate his talents : his language therefore should not be considered in the abstract. HENLEY.

s —AND when conies your book forth?] *And* was supplied by Sir T. Hatu&er, to perfect the measure. STEEVENS,